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harder to see than the companion to *Sirius*, and the measures, especially of distance, are subject to much larger probable error.

ZWIERS's ephemeris gives for *Sirius*:—

1901.25	133°.3	5″.07.

R. G. AITKEN.

May 8, 1901.

THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR ROWLAND.

The physical side of Astronomy suffered a great loss on April 16th, in the death of Professor HENRY A. ROWLAND, of Johns Hopkins University, in the fifty-third year of his age. Professor ROWLAND occupied the Chair of Physics from 1876, the date of the opening of the university, until the time of his death.

Professor ROWLAND'S contributions to our knowledge of heat, electricity, and light earned for him a place in the front rank of the physicists of the world. Astronomy is indebted to him mainly for the perfection of the diffraction-grating and for his studies on the grating spectrum of the Sun. His tables of wave-lengths in the solar spectrum are so generally in use that they may be said to form the basis of all accurate astronomical spectroscopy. His premature death has given rise to heartfelt expressions of regret from the entire scientific world.

W. W. C.

THE LICK OBSERVATORY BULLETIN.

Early in the present year the Lick Observatory began to issue a bulletin to supply a want long felt. Its purpose was to furnish a medium of publication insuring prompt distribution of important results, and likewise that it should be used for publishing long and technical articles unsuitable for journal publication, and which could not await publication in volume form.

It is not intended that the mailing-list shall include individuals except in the rare cases where investigators have not ready access to the *Bulletin* through institutions.

Bulletins Nos. 1 and No. 2 have been issued. They contain Professor TUCKER'S meridian-circle positions of the comparison-stars to be used as a basis for determining the solar parallax, from observations of the planet *Eros*. The total number of stars